

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND)
ALTERNATIVE 1 FOR THE) RESOLUTION NO. 16-_____
CHEHALIS BASIN STRATEGY)

WHEREAS, the Chehalis Basin, the second-largest watershed in Washington State, suffers from the dual problems of catastrophic flooding and significant degradation of aquatic species.

WHEREAS, climate change projections forecast drier, hotter summers and more intense winter storms with disastrous consequences for the basin’s fishery and for the families and communities across the basin and for the state’s transportation system from a 60 percent increase in the level of extreme floods in the coming decades.

WHEREAS, the Department of Ecology has prepared a Programmatic Impact Statement (EIS) that evaluates a combination of actions to reduce flood damage and restore aquatic species habitat.

WHEREAS “no action” is totally unacceptable for aquatic species, for basin residents and for the state of Washington.

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Chehalis Basin Work Group has been tasked by the Governor to make recommendations for a long-term strategy to reduce flood damage and restore aquatic species habitat.

WHEREAS Alternative 1 in the EIS provides significant reductions in flood damage from the combination of a dam, floodproofing structures, improvements to land-use management and local projects,

WHEREAS Alternative 1 will include a range of habitat restoration actions that will significantly increase salmon populations as well as improve or maintain populations of other native aquatic species.

WHEREAS the Chehalis Basin Flood Authority comprised of appointed representatives from the following basin cities and counties: Aberdeen, Cosmopolis, Oakville, Montesano, Grays Harbor County, Bucoda, Thurston County, Centralia, Chehalis, Napavine, Pe Ell and Lewis County, voted unanimously to recommend Alternative 1.

Therefore, Lewis County hereby recommends to the Governor's Chehalis Basin Work Group and State Department of Ecology, that Alternative 1 should be implemented as the long-term strategy for reducing flood damage and restoration aquatic species habitat in the Chehalis Basin.

And the next state biennium 2017-19 budget should include significant funding to advance the immediate and long-term actions outlined in Alternative 1.

PASSED IN REGULAR SESSION THIS 24th DAY OF OCTOBER 2016.

APPROVED AS TO FORM
Jonathan Meyer, Prosecuting Attorney

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

P.W. Schulte, Chair

ATTEST

Gary Stamper, Vice Chair

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